

NU HOU DALA PAA

NEWS FROM THE HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AND THE HONOLULU COIN CLUB

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HSNA TO CELEBRATE 25th ANNIVERSARY

BY M. F. KENDRICK

We are anxiously planning a fabulous 25th year Hawaii State Numismatic Association Convention Coin Show for November, 1988 (10th through 13th). There will be many exciting things planned which are in the working stage.

We have invited China Mint to attend our show. However, their acceptance is still pending. A new logo has been designed which will enhance our association's image. A new souvenir program booklet is in progress which will be fitting for our 25th HSNA anniversary celebration. It is also the "Year of the Dragon" so a dragon dance will very possibly be at our show. We are having medals made to honor this special occasion and also for the dealers who have supported us for the past 25 years.

As you may know, 25 years ago, a group of numismatists saw the need to help this hobby of coin collecting in Hawaii and established the Hawaii State Numismatic Association. They saw the need to promote and sponsor a major coin show in Hawaii and to assist the local coin clubs with their coin shows and programs.

Hope that their goals and ideals have been accomplished. We wish to express our appreciation for their foresight — Mahalo!

Last year we had a good show, thanks to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP). Their display of the billion dollars in currency was well received. The sale of uncut currency was fantastic — as you know, they sold out the first day. Our attendance was over 4,000 for the four days. The BEP played a major part in our successful show and we hope to have them back when we get our new currency design.

We plan to continue to have a major attraction at our show every year.

Happy 25th Anniversary, HSNA!!



HCC JUNIOR'S FIRST WOODEN TOKEN



The newly organized Junior Program under the direction of Mr. Dan Garret, the Club Advisor of the Honolulu Coin Club, designed a wooden token. It was a contest among the juniors, to select the best obverse and reverse.

The winners Dannie Garret Jr. for his obverse of Captain James Cook, known for his discovery of the Hawaiian Islands, and Susanna Hunt for her floral motif designed on the reverse. The token will be sold at the Honolulu Coin Club and HSNA Show as a fund raiser.



HONOLULU COIN CLUB

The Honolulu Coin Club meets every second and fourth Wednesday of each month at Susannah Wesley Community Center at 1117 Kaili Street, 7:30 p.m. Gregory Hunt, president.



FROSTED: A REDISCOVERY BY IRVING KAM

A few days ago while puttering around the house, I came across a two-by-two coin box that I haven't laid eyes on for a number of years. It was labeled "Frosted" and sure enough, inside I discovered cameo proofs long forgotten and absent-mindedly stored away with the coin supplies. Only a few Franklin halves were present but lots of quarters and dimes, dated 1950 through 1964, followed by nickels and cents in lesser amounts. While flipping through the newly found stash, the smile I had been wearing for the last five minutes quickly disappeared as I leaned closer to decipher my codes. I just couldn't believe I had paid so much for some of these pieces. After much thought, I now surmise that these proofs were probably purchased at or near the height of the last frosted surge some six or seven years ago. Premiums not totally absurd but certainly representative of a time when said commodity did indeed experience a lofty degree of demand. This episode only helps to confirm my feelings that the current price levels occurring within the frosted market is, at the very least, reasonable. I suppose, like with anything having a limited availability, it would be difficult to gauge true value, but within a certain price range, this area of collecting once again really looks good.

Focus has been centered mainly on the halves, including the Kennedys up to 1970, but that is not to say the other denominations should be overlooked. They are just as stunning when found with snow white devices and are also hard to locate, oftentimes more so. The rarity ladder concerning the Franklins hasn't changed much and the 1950 issue still seems to be the top gun. Its mintage is listed at just a bit over fifty-one thousand and the overall quality left a lot to be desired. As a matter of fact, some proofs have been offered as nice business strikes with semi proof-like surfaces. Deep mirrored fields are not a typical characteristic as exhibited by its modern day counterpart and even trying to acquire a non cameo problem-free specimen would present an arduous task. As for the Kennedy series, those from the special mint sets, years 1965, 1966, and 1967, offer the most challenge. Though not really considered proofs, they are collected along with its San Francisco relatives and the lower denominations are particularly elusive. The next three years of proofs are not as difficult in comparison and comes in every degree of contrast possible.

Super frosted coins have no problems finding a home but real nice moderate to moderate plus examples have a slower reaction. These are the same quality that were selling well at a minimum of forty dollars each a few years back. They currently seem to trade in the fifteen- to eighteen-dollar range with the 1970-S a couple of bucks more.

Heavily contrasted 1964 Kennedys are a bit harder to obtain and have always been an extremely popular one year type. Even moderately contrasted pieces are desirable and not often encountered locally. It may be my imagination but it seems that there is a difference in overall depth quality due in part to its silver content as opposed to the years with a forty

percent mix.

When examining cameo proof coins, it's a good idea to be aware of the light around you as well as the one you're using. Many times illumination plays tricks on the degree of frosting and you may want to re-check away from the lamp under natural lighting. Don't be afraid to really scrutinize. A ten-power magnification is also a handy instrument in detecting little spots or breaks in the surface indicating possible corrosion in its earlier stage. In essence, I try to follow a few self-imposed rules, starting with the condition of the coin first of all. Then comes the degree of frosting, making sure both sides are frosted as evenly as rationally possible, then an overall view to determine eye appeal. This step also includes the mirror quality of the fields to determine contrast and also the attractiveness of the toning if present. All this culminates into the final analysis which is the last step, the price.

An interesting side note is that when going through that recovered box of coins, I noticed no pieces had any kind of spotting or blemish. Some had started to tone and those that already had some color only grew bolder, but no problems had occurred at all. Before storing these proofs, each one was neutralized in a solvent called Dissolve, put in a non PVC Kointain, and as an added measure, placed in an unplasticized holder called a Safliip. Granted, six years may not be enough to judge the effectiveness of these protective measures or products, but it certainly has done wonders to my confidence.

The frosted proof may have lost some steam behind the glamour of the super dollar, the coming of age of our beautiful commemoratives, or the new era of the slab, but one thing is certain, the day of the cameo will again appear.

Aloha! Pau.



FATHER DAMIEN HCC SECOND FAMOUS PEOPLE WOODS

The second series of the "Famous People of Hawaii" wooden token features Father Joseph Damien DeVeuster. On the obverse of the token is the portrait of Father Damien with his church at the Kalawao Settlement on the island of Molokai.

According to an article written by Gary Lau in the "Nu Hou Dala Paa" dated December 8, 1982, No. 6, Father Damien was born on January 3, 1840, in Tremeloo, Belgium. He came to Honolulu, Hawaii on March 1864 and was ordained on May 21, 1864.

Father Damien was famous for his holy work with the lepers of Molokai which he continued for 16 years until his death in 1889.

The reverse of the token is the logo of the Damien Memorial High School which opened in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1962. The color of the token is purple. To order, just send in 25¢ per token, plus a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

Honolulu Coin Club
P.O. Box 6063
Honolulu, HI 96816



A TOUCH OF HAWAIIANA

ALA MOANA SCHOOL LUNCH TOKEN BY GARY LAU



Obverse: Ala Moana School
Reverse: Good for One Lunch 5¢
TL-2

Located next to the Kewalo incinerator off Ala Moana Blvd., on approximately 4.4 acres of land, there was a one-building, 100-student school known originally as the "Ala Moana Opportunity School". The name was changed in 1937 to "Ala Moana School" and became a primarily occupation school for children over 12 years of age interested in manual rather than mental work. The original school was strictly for retarded children, but changed in 1937 to accommodate those children who had low academic skills. Boys in the school trained to be carpenter's helpers, painter's helpers, yard boys, shoe repairers, or service attendants. Girls were taught these exciting fields: sewing, cooking, loom weaving and Hawaiian arts. Classes were adjusted to each pupil's needs and the academic work always coordinated with the occupational. This token was issued as a lunch token and is extremely scarce to find. If you have one, you are in an elite group!!!

Aloha, Gary.

BOURSE DEALERS at the Honolulu Coin Club Meeting

BY GLENN YOKOYAMA



One of the great pleasures of attending a meeting of the Honolulu Coin Club is the number of vest-pocket or bourse dealers who attend and the variety of material they bring to

meetings. For those of us who find it difficult to make the time to visit the coin shops, the coin club meetings make a convenient gathering for collectors and the group known as

bourse dealers. This hearty bunch sets up at coin shows, swap meets and coin meetings. The group that sets up at the Honolulu Coin Club meetings range from professional dealers who travel frequently to mainland shows to collectors who dabble in dealing while selling/trading their duplicates.

Ed Millerd offers a large selection of foreign BU and proof coins and medal sets. U.S. coins, Hawaiian and a large selection of silver bullion. Ed has sold a complete set of 28 Pearl Harbor commemorative medals, the 24K gold on silver variety. An interesting set, 21 of the 28 medals show ships. Anyone know why the USS ENTERPRISE, which was not at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, is included in the set and the USS ARIZONA is not?

Ralph Brown, who describes himself as just a collector, but is known for his large "collection" of foreign coins, used U.S. coin, tokens (you say you collect transportation tokens?) and a junk box. Ralph loves his fellow collectors and it shows; he once went to the Friends of the Library book sale, bought all the books on coin collecting and resold them at the club meetings for the same price. Quite a guy!

Of all the bourse dealers at the club meetings, I believe Francis Loo holds the longevity record. Francis, a former president of the club, has U.S., Hawaiian and foreign, and if you don't see what you want, just ask him, you might be surprised!

Douglas Klein sometimes comes with an assortment of U.S. coins. David Gere shows up occasionally with the harvest of his visits to mainland shows — gold, B.U. silver dollars, bullion and who knows what else. Damon comes with military medals as well as foreign. Mel Muraoka can usually be counted on to bring B.U. silver dollars and other nice U.S. coins. Jene Fujita comes with BU and type U.S. coins. You may see James Kinoshita too, but Jimmy usually doesn't bring coins but likes to talk story.

The best time to check out the dealers is from about 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., just before the meeting starts. The club frowns upon dealing during the meeting, but you can resume during the breaks and after the meeting.

You can see that quite a few of these vest-pocket dealers are around and although their selection is not what you'll find at your neighborhood coin shop, the selection of all of them together in one room is quite impressive. You won't find many rarities but lots of medium priced or even cheap coins. Happy hunting.!

Note: My apologies to Glenn Yokoyama for our taking so long to print this story. It was misplaced with other HCC articles. Better late than never!

— C.M.





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